



**Recreational Marijuana  
Licensing Update  
King County  
Regional Law, Safety, and Justice  
Committee**

**March 27, 2014**

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Licensing and Regulation Division



# **Application Window**

## **Producers, Processors, and Retailers**

Opened      8:00 AM      November 20, 2013

Closed      5:00 PM      December 20, 2013

Master Applications Received: 5,201

Privileges Applications Received: 6,987



# Application Processing Includes:

- Verification of 1,000 foot buffer from Sensitive Areas
- Seeking Input from Local Authorities (Cities, Counties, Tribes, Port Authorities)
- Verification of Residency
- Entity Formed in Washington
- Criminal Background (Fingerprints)
- Financial Investigation
- Review Operating Plan
- Final Inspection of Location



# Local Authority (LA) Input

- Notice of Application (Producer and Processor) Sent to Local Authority. Similar to the Liquor Procedure
- LA Must Respond Within 20 Days With An Approval Or Objection. May Request An Extension (In Writing)
- LA Failure to Respond Within 20 Day Period Will Be Viewed as “Neutral”



# Objections

- Must Be Supported
- Will Not Consider Objections Based on Local Land Use, Ordinance, or Existing Moratoria
- Applicant Will Be Notified of LA Objections
- Substantial Weight Given to Objections Based on Chronic Illegal Activity (RCW 69.50.331(9))
- If License Issued Over LA objection, LA May Be Granted an Administrative Hearing (RCW 34-05)



# Reasons the Board May Seek Denial, Suspension or Cancellation

## WAC 314-55-050

- Sixteen Elements
- If the Board Seeks Denial, Applicant Is Given the Opportunity for an Administrative Hearing
- Administrative Hearing Held Before ALJ Who Crafts an “Initial Order” OR Brief Adjudicative Hearing (BAP)
- Board Reviews and Issues Final Order
- Actions Appealable in Superior Court



# Retail Licenses

- 334 Locations Statewide
- Allocation Posted on Our Website
- Retail Applications Received: 2,210
- Lottery Will Be Performed After Pre-screening
- LAs Notified After Lottery



# Retail Pre-Screening

- Verify 1,000 Foot Separation
- Criminal History
- Verify Residency and Entity Creation
- Verification of Applicant Age
- Verification That Applicant Has a “Right” to the Location





# Retail Lottery

- Protocols and Process and Timeline to Be Announced Next Week
- LA Notice and Remaining Application Processing After Lottery Selection
- How Will Local Permitting and Licensing Processes Impact Retail “Start Up”?



# Current License Issuance Status

- Number of Licenses Issued to Date
  - Producer: 1
  - Producer/Processor: 6
  - Total Canopy: 43,944
- Number of Applicants Pending Final Inspection and/or Payment Of Fee
  - Producer: 2
  - Producer/Processor: 15



# Current and Pending Issues

- Medical Marijuana
- ESHB 2304
- Bans/Moratoria
- Rule-making Continues
  - Processor – Infused Drinks and Food
  - Retailer – Product Transportation and Return to Processor
  - Processor – Extracting Processing
  - Third Party Laboratories (Quality Assurance Testing)
  - LCB Seizure of Product



## Staying Connected

- Visit the I-502 Webpage. [www.liq.wa.gov](http://www.liq.wa.gov)
  - Factsheets
  - FAQs
  - Timelines
  - YouTube Video and/or Audio Of Public Forums
- Listserv With Over 9,200 Subscribers To Date



**Thank You**